

County Borough of West Hartlepool.



# REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER of HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1914.

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West Hartlepool :

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1915.



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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS,

WEST HARTLEPOOL.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the  
County Borough of West Hartlepool.

MR. MAYOR AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present to you the Annual Public Health Report, for the County Borough of West Hartlepool, for the year ending 31st December, 1914.

The Report is based on the work and figures of the late Medical Officer of Health, Dr. H. E. Gamlen, who is with the troops in France, and of the Inspectors who carried out their duties under his supervision.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

HERBERT M. CARGIN, M.D., D.P.H.



## HEALTH COMMITTEE.

---

CHAIRMAN	-	ALDERMAN THOS. CLARKSON, J.P.
VICE-CHAIRMAN	-	THE MAYOR (COUN. J. R. FRYER, J.P.)
ALDERMAN T. J. JOHNSON.		COUNCILLOR J. HUSSEY.
COUNCILLOR H. BARKER.		„ H. MASON.
„ W. BROWN.		„ T. RELTON.
„ R. COLEMAN.		„ W. T. RYAN.
„ W. EDGAR.		„ W. H. THORNTON
		COUNCILLOR T. F. THOMPSON.

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## STAFF of PUBLIC HEALTH DEPT.

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*Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer :*

H. E. GAMLEN, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

*Assistant School Medical Officers :*

J. M. WATERS, M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.S.A. (London).

E. SEATON COCKELL, M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.S.A. (London).

A. G. W. PEARSON, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

A. R. McCULLAGH, L.R.C.P., L.S.A. (London).

*Sanitary Inspectors :* H. V. ROBINSON, C.R.S.I.

J. T. DURKIN, C.R.S.I.

*Clerks :* W. K. RIDSDALE.

T. B. CLARK.

A. HALLIDAY (Office Boy).

*Nurses :* NURSE A. NIXON, C.M.B.

(Health Visitor).

NURSE SMITH (School Nurse).

*Public Analyst :* CYRIL J. H. STOCK, B.Sc., F.I.C.,  
Darlington.

*Borough Veterinary Inspector :* B. HOADLEY, M.R.C.V.S.

County Borough of



West Hartlepool.

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## Report of the Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR 1914.

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### POPULATION.

If the increase of the population between the years 1901—1911 were maintained up to the end of 1914, the population would be approximately 64,327.

Estimated from the Birth Rate 1904—1913, the average number of inhabitants of the Borough is 65,063.

The Registrar General's estimate to the middle of the year 1914, was 64,374.

It is probable, judging from the number of occupied houses that this estimate is too low, and that the population was at least 65,000 for the greater part of the year.

The calculations of death rates, etc., have been based upon the estimated population of 65,000.

## POPULATION AND HOUSES IN WARDS.

The estimated population of each of the Wards, its area and the density of the population, and also the number of occupied and void houses, as shewn by the rate books, are given below :—

Wards	Estimated Population	Area in Acres		Persons per Acre		Occupied Houses	Empty Houses Aug., 1914		
North East	3,358	...	563	...	5.9	...	1,618	...	86
Central	8,247	...	93	...	88.6	...	2,136	...	54
North	9,300	...	421	...	22.0	...	1,725	...	8
West	11,014	...	185	...	59.5	...	1,882	...	11
Park	8,912	...	285	...	31.2	...	1,970	...	16
South East	7,528	...	317	...	27.7	...	1,751	...	14
South West	14,176	...	140	...	101.2	...	2,170	...	14
Seaton	2,465	...	954	...	2.6	...	850	...	9
Totals	65,000		2,958				14,102		212

## MARRIAGES.

664 Marriages were recorded in the Borough during 1914, equal to a marriage rate of 43.1 per 1,000 of the population. Comparative figures for recent years are not available.

## BIRTHS.

There were 1,894 births registered during 1914, made up as follows :—

Males.	Females.
1,023	871
Legitimate.	Illegitimate.
1,819	75

The following table indicates the birth rates in West Hartlepool, and in England and Wales, for the five year ending 1914 :—

Year.	Birth Rate per 1,000.			
	West Hartlepool.		England and Wales.	
1910	...	26.5	...	25.1
1911	...	29.0	...	24.4
1912	...	28.27	...	23.8
1913	...	29.57	...	23.9
1914	...	29.13	...	23.8



The Birth Rates for 1914, in some of the other large towns, are given below :—

Glasgow	27.9 per 1000	Birmingham	27.0 per 1,000
Liverpool	30.2 „	Manchester	25.8 „
Sheffield	27.4 „	Leeds	23.3 „
Bristol	21.5 „	Hull	27.6 „
Newcastle	28.1 „	Portsmouth	23.7 „
Grimsby	27.3 „		

It is evident from the foregoing figures that the Birth Rate in this Borough is comparatively high.

#### BIRTH RATES IN THE WARDS.

Wards.		Estimated Population.		Births.		Birth Rate per 1,000.
North	...	9,300	...	248	...	26.6
West	...	11,014	...	229	...	20.79
Park	...	8,912	...	172	...	19.29
South-West	...	14,176	...	305	...	21.51
South-East...	...	7,528	...	310	...	41.17
Seaton	...	2,465	...	86	...	34.87
North-East	...	3,358	...	227	...	67.59
Central	...	8,247	...	317	...	38.43
		<hr/> 65,000		<hr/> 1,894		<hr/> —

It will be seen that there is a considerable variation in the birth rate in the various Wards.

This is accounted for to a large extent by the difference in the age and sex constitution of the communities, and also to some extent, by the larger or smaller proportion of married women in the area in question.

75 Births were recorded as illegitimate. This is equivalent to 3.9 per cent. of the total births.

#### STILL BIRTHS.

There were 99 Still Births notified for the year, as compared with 102 in 1913. These figures are obtained from the notifications sent to this office by Doctors and Midwives. They are checked by the weekly returns from the Superintendent of the Cemetery.

The still births formed 5.2 per cent. of the total births.

## NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS ACT, 1907.

This Act was adopted in the Borough of West Hartlepool, in 1913. It provides that notification of birth is given in writing to the Medical Officer of Health of the District, within 36 hours after the birth, by the person attending on the mother at the time of or within six hours after the birth of the child.

All notifications are carefully kept, and from time to time are compared with the births registered, and by this means births which have not been notified are detected and enquiries are made.

Under this Act, 1862 births were notified during the year, leaving 32 cases unaccounted for, and in which enquiries were made.

The notifications were as follows:—

	Number.
From Doctors -	1,090
From Midwives -	770
From Parents -	2

The early notification of births as laid down by the Act, is of considerable assistance to the Health Visitor, who visits each child in certain districts as soon after notification as possible.

The total visits paid to newly born babies were 752.

## DEATHS.

There were 1,037 deaths recorded during the year of persons belonging to the Borough.

567 of these were males, and 470 were females.

The death rate for the year is 15.9 per 1,000, as compared with 1913, when it was 15.98 per 1,000.

Of the deaths recorded, 51 were the direct result of the bombardment. It will, therefore, be appreciated that had this event not taken place, the death rate for the year would have been much lower, namely 15.1.



III. TABLE SHEWING CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT DEATH,  
for the County Borough of West Hartlepool, during the year 1914.

CAUSE OF DEATH	NETT DEATHS AT THE SUBJOINED AGES OF "RESIDENTS" WHETHER OCCURRING WITHIN OR WITHOUT THE DISTRICT.												TOTAL DEATHS WHETHER OF "RESIDENTS OR NON-RESIDENTS" IN INSTITUTIONS IN THE DISTRICT.	INCREASE OR DECREASE
	ALL AGES.	Under 1 year 0-1	1 and under 5 1-5	5 and under 10 5-10	10 and under 15 10-15	15 and under 20 15-20	20 and under 25 20-25	25 and under 35 25-35	35 and under 45 35-45	45 and under 55 45-55	55 and under 65 55-65	65 and upwards 65+		
Small Pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	same
Measles ...	7	1	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Scarlet Fever ...	7	...	3	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	+
Whooping Cough ...	7	2	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Diphtheria and Membran- eous Croup ...	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	}
Croup ...	3	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
{ Typhus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
{ Enteric	3	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	same
{ Other continued	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2	5	...	-
Epidemic Influenza ...	10	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	+
Cholera ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	same
Plague ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	same
Diarrhoea ...	16	14	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	+
Enteritis ...	30	12	10	1	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	4	-
Puerperal Fever ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	same
Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Other Septic Diseases ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	same
Phthisis ...	70	2	3	2	7	5	12	...	18	8	6	...	...	-
Tubercular Meningitis ...	20	3	12	4	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	2	...	+
Other Tubercular Diseases	19	5	6	2	...	...	...	6	4	15	6	22	...	-
Cancer, malignant diseases	64	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	2	15	...	22	...	+
Bronchitis ...	93	39	18	...	...	...	...	...	2	6	...	22	...	-
Pneumonia ...	112	24	32	4	3	1	7	...	4	9	15	11	...	+
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	+
Pleurisy ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	-
Other Respiratory Diseases	5	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	+
Alcoholism and Cirrhosis of Liver ...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	-
Venereal Diseases...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	+
Atrophy ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	}
Debility ...	22	22	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Marasmus ...	18	17	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Premature Birth ...	37	37	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	-
Diseases and Accidents of	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	+
Parturition and Pregnancy	6	1	...	...	...	1	4	4	...	...	...	...	...	-
Heart Diseases ...	129	4	3	...	2	2	...	3	4	26	27	56	14	-
Nephritis and Bright's Disease ...	16	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	7	...	...	4	1	-
Accidents ...	27	1	3	2	...	2	1	3	2	5	...	3	5	+
Suicides ...	10	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	3	4	1	1	...	+
Appendicitis ...	4	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	1	...	...	...	+
Deaths due to Bombard- ment ...	51	2	5	7	7	4	3	3	12	5	2	1	28	none last year
All Other Causes ...	243	23	15	6	2	5	14	16	20	24	30	88	32	+
TOTAL NET DEATHS	1037	211	127	31	26	27	32	66	80	104	110	223	116	-





Below, is given the death rates for West Hartlepool and England and Wales per 1,000, for the five years ending 1914.

Year.		West Hartlepool.		England & Wales.
1910	...	13.4	...	13.5
1911	...	15.64	...	14.6
1912	...	14.89	...	13.3
1913	...	15.98	...	13.7
1914	...	15.9	...	14.0

In the next table will be found the death rates of some of the larger towns :—

Town.				Death Rates.
Glasgow	...	...	...	16.6
Birmingham	...	...	...	14.8
Liverpool	...	...	...	19.4
Manchester	...	...	...	16.7
Sheffield	...	...	...	16.3
Leeds	...	...	...	15.0
Bristol	...	...	...	13.3
Hull	...	...	...	15.3
Newcastle	...	...	...	17.0
Portsmouth	...	...	...	12.6
Grimsby	...	...	...	14.5
West Hartlepool		...	...	15.9

The accompanying table on page 11 shews the causes of death and ages at death, of all persons dying during the year in the Borough.

It will be noticed that prominent amongst the causes of death, are the following :—

Disease		Deaths	Percentage of total deaths		Increase or Decrease compared with 1913					
<i>Chest Complaints—</i>										
Bronchitis	...	93	...	8.9	...	13.8	=	—	4.9	
Heart Disease	...	129	...	12.4	...	12.8	=	—	.4	
Phthisis	...	70	...	6.7	...	6.2	=	+	.5	
Pneumonia	...	112	...	10.8	...	5.9	=	+	4.9	
		Total	...	38.8						
Other Tubercular Diseases						...	5.6	=	—	1.9
Cancer	...	64	...	6.1	...	5.3	=	+	.8	
Premature Births, etc.		62	...	5.9	...	7.9	=	—	2.0	
Enteritis & Diarrhœa		46	...	4.4	...	4.4	=		same	

Deaths and Death Rate for the year in the various Wards :—

Wards	Area in Acres.	Population	Deaths	Death rate per 1,000.
North ...	421	9,300	116	12.47
West ...	185	11,014	106	9.62
Park ...	285	8,912	110	12.34
South-West ...	140	14,176	157	11.07
South-East...	79 *	7,528	153	20.32
Central ...	93	8,247	203	24.61
North-East...	80 *	3,358	145	43.18
Seaton ...	954	2,465	47	19.07
Total		65,000	1,037	

\* Land occupied by Docks and other Works not included.

It will be evident from the above that there is a great disparity in the death rates of the various Wards. This may be accounted for to some extent by the age distribution of the population, but it will also be noticed that the congested areas, that is those areas with streets of small houses crowded together, shew the higher death rates.

Applying the prominent causes of death to the three Wards—North East, Central, and South East, and comparing them with the Wards immediately in contact with them, we find that it is mainly those diseases which are preventable that cause death in the greatest number in the congested Wards.

## DEATH RATES IN GROUP OF WARDS.

DISEASE	WARDS.							
	North East	Central	South East	Death Rate	South West	Park	West	Death Rate
<b>Preventable :</b>								
Tubercular Diseases	5.	2.	2.1	9.1	1.4	.6	.6	2.6
Bronchitis ...	3.5	3.2	2.5	9.2	.3	.5	.6	1.4
Pneumonia ...	5.6	2.7	1.4	9.7	.6	1.2	1.	2.8
Heart Disease ...	5.	2.7	2.3	10.	1.4	.8	1.2	3.4
Enteritis, Diarrhœa	1.1	1.3	1.1	3.5	.5	.4	.4	1.3
Premature Birth, Debility, etc. ...	2.	2.5	2.3	6.8	.7	.5	.4	1.6
<b>Non-Preventable :</b>								
Cancer ...	2.	2.	1.	5.	.6	.7	.6	1.9
Nephritis & Bright's Disease ...	.9	.9	.1	1.9	.2	.2	.09	.4
Accidents ...	2.	.6	.7	3.3	.1	.2	.1	.49

## DEATHS IN INSTITUTIONS.

Cameron Hospital	...	...	22
Workhouse Hospital	...	...	93
V.A.D. Masonic Hall	...	...	1

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116

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A number of the deaths caused by the bombardment took place in these institutions and consequently the figures are larger than would otherwise have been the case.

## INQUESTS.

The Coroner has held 118 Inquests in West Hartlepool during the year. The deaths were distributed as follows:—

North	West	Park	S. West	S. East	Central	N. East	Seaton	Total
43	10	8	10	10	10	26	1	118

11 Deaths were recorded as Uncertified by Medical Practitioner. These were divided among the Wards in the following numbers :—

North	West	Park	S. West	S. East	Central	N. East	Seaton	Total
2	1	3	2	—	2	1	—	11

### INFANTILE MORTALITY.

There were 211 deaths amongst infants under one year of age, this is equal to a mortality rate of 111 per 1,000 births.

This figure is not a high one as compared with previous years shewn in the following table :—

### INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES.

WEST HARTLEPOOL.			ENGLAND AND WALES.	
Year.		Rate.		Rate.
1906	...	137	...	132
1907	...	126	...	118
1908	...	114	...	120
1909	...	103	...	109
1910	...	133	...	105
1911	...	127	...	130
1912	...	103	...	95
1913	...	136	...	109
1914	...	111	...	105

On two occasions only was the Infantile Mortality lower than that of 1914 in West Hartlepool.

But it must be recognised that the number of infants who die each year is still very much too high, and that a great deal can be done to diminish this unnecessary waste of human life, as a very considerable number of these deaths is due to ignorance or carelessness on the part of the parents.

Unsuitable diet, dirty homes, and the dirty bodies and clothing of these children are often the direct cause of illness frequently ending in death or an enfeebled condition, which leaves little hope of recovery if they are attacked by one of the infectious disorders.

In the homes of careless parents, it is an every day occurrence to see these infants crawling on dirty floors, conveying all sorts of



dirty objects to their mouths, including a dummy, which probably has just been recovered from some specially filthy spot on the floor. Their bodies washed occasionally and smelling most disagreeably, their clothes soiled and wet, their food—bread, bacon, sausage, or “anything that is going,” even before their teeth begin to appear, given sips of beer, sweetened tea, or milk left exposed for considerable periods in dirty and dusty receptacles, they may well be accounted lucky if they survive their first summer.

It will be seen from the following table that the poorer and more congested areas of the Borough, suffer most from high death rate amongst infants.

#### INFANTILE MORTALITY IN THE VARIOUS WARDS.

Ward.	Population.	Deaths.	Infantile Mortality Rate.
North	9,300	30	120
West	11,014	16	69
Park	8,912	13	75
South West	14,176	34	111
South East	7,528	35	112
Central	8,247	49	154
North East	3,358	22	96
Seaton	2,465	12	139

The causes of death in children under one year of age, are given below.

Disease.	Number of Deaths.
Measles	1
Whooping Cough	2
Diarrhœa and Enteritis	26
Tuberculosis	10
Pneumonia	24
Bronchitis	39
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	40
Premature Birth	37
Congenital Malformations	12
All other causes	20
Total	211

It will be noticed in the above table that 26 deaths are ascribed to Diarrhœa and Enteritis, and it may be safely assumed that these deaths are largely preventable; while of the 56 deaths due to Bronchitis, many of the children might have been saved had due attention been paid to the clothing of the child, and prevention of it to exposure.

In the following table, the deaths in the various Wards from the above diseases, are shewn:—

INFANTILE MORTALITY IN THE WARDS, FROM THE  
MORE PROMINENT CAUSES OF DEATH.

DISEASES.	N.	W.	P.	S.W.	S.E.	C.	N.E.	Seaton.	Total.
Measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Whooping Cough ...	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	2
Diarrhœa ...	—	2	1	3	2	3	—	3	14
Tuberculosis ...	1	1	—	3	2	1	1	1	10
Pneumonia ...	8	2	1	2	4	5	2	—	24
Bronchitis ...	6	2	4	3	4	14	6	—	39
Debility, Marasmus, and Prematurity	12	5	5	10	13	20	8	5	78
Other Causes ...	6	6	2	11	7	8	3	—	43
	33	18	14	32	33	51	20	10	211

The next table gives the Infant Mortality during the year, sub-divided to shew the cause of death in each case at certain week-age groups.

#### IV.—INFANT MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1914.

*Nett Deaths from stated causes at various ages under 1 year of age.*

CAUSE OF DEATH	Under 1 Week	1—2 Weeks	2—3 Weeks	3—4 Weeks	Total under four Weeks	(One month and under three months)	3—6 months	6—9 months	9—12 months	Total Deaths under 1 year
Small-Pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken-Pox...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Scarlet Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
Diphtheria and Croup...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tubercular Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	3
Abdominal Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Tubercular Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	1	...	5
Meningitis (not Tubercular)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Convulsions ...	3	1	...	...	4	2	2	...	1	9
Laryngitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Bronchitis ...	...	...	...	2	2	3	4	14	16	39
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	4	4	5	7	3	5	24
Diarrhoea ...	...	...	...	1	1	4	5	2	2	14
Enteritis ...	...	...	...	1	1	1	4	...	6	12
Gastritis ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	2
Syphilis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Rickets ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Suffocation, overlying ...	...	...	...	3	3	1	...	...	...	4
Injury at Birth ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Atelectasis ...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Congenital Malformations	8	1	...	1	10	...	2	...	...	12
Premature Birth ...	30	1	3	1	35	1	1	...	...	37
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	16	2	3	6	27	5	5	2	...	39
Other Causes...	...	1	...	1	2	...	...	1	1	4
All Causes } Certified ... } Uncertified	58	6	6	20	90	26	32	25	38	211





Reference has already been made to Diarrhœa and Enteritis in Infants. This is a condition which occurs most frequently in the summer months, and especially in the hot and dry summers.

It begins in almost every case, owing to unsuitable diet, or in carelessness in preparing the food, or exposure of it to dirt and contamination.

If mothers could only be persuaded to feed their children on the breast, and thus give them their proper food until the child was ready for weaning, more particularly in the summer months, many of these infants would be saved.

Because of ignorance, or carelessness, or inability to breast feed them, a heavy toll is taken of these Infants' lives.

Diarrhœa once started in a congested area, spreads quickly, probably being conveyed from house to house through the medium of flies. These pests breed where manure and filth are accumulated, and where dirt abounds, and thus they are a good reflex of the sanitary conditions prevailing in the area in question.

Attention is being called to the necessity for preventing the breeding of these insects by the Local Government Board, and by the Press.

In the Summer of 1915, when it is reasonable to suppose that outbreaks of such infectious diseases as Typhoid may occur, owing to the large number of men entering and leaving the country from abroad, and the concentration of large bodies of troops in our areas, special attention should be given to this danger.

The Local Authority should insist that manure receptacles be emptied or cleaned each week, and that house refuse should be removed with unfailing regularity.

It is the duty of the householder to see that as much of the house refuse as possible is burned, that empty tins and rubbish are not allowed to accumulate, and that dirty and dusty corners are cleaned out frequently.

From the time the egg is deposited, until the fly is mature, ten days must elapse, and by attention to cleansing at weekly periods, much can be done to exterminate these dangerous insects.

A report was presented by Dr. Gamlen to your Committee in May, 1914, on Manure and Manure Receptacles, as follows:—

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS,  
WEST HARTLEPOOL,

*22nd May, 1914.*

**To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.**

GENTLEMEN,

I desire to draw your attention to the danger to the Public Health, arising from the retention of manure in the neighbourhood of shops and dwellings, and the inadequate measures at present existing for dealing with such conditions.

Apart from the danger caused by the effluvia from such collections of manure, they are the selected breeding places of myriads of flies, and these are directly responsible for much ill-health in warm weather—especially epidemics of diarrhoea and allied conditions.

The receptacles themselves should have a capacity of not more than three cubic yards, should be properly ventilated and roofed over to prevent the entrance of rain water, etc., the floor should not be lower than the surrounding ground, and it, together with the walls, should be impervious, so as to prevent any leakage and contamination of the adjacent surface.

The present method of dealing with the nuisance is founded on Section 49 of the Public Health Act, 1875.

On receipt of a complaint, the Inspector of Nuisances after satisfying himself that such a nuisance exists, serves a notice on the occupier of the premises to remove the accumulation within 24 hours—if at the expiration of 24 hours the nuisance still exists, “the manure, dung, soil or filth or matter referred to *shall* be vested in and be sold or disposed of by the *Authority*, and the proceeds thereof shall be applied in payment of the expenses incurred by them,” provision is made whereby the surplus, if any, shall be paid on demand to the owner and any deficit recovered in a summary manner from the owner of the accumulation or occupier of the premises.

Under this Section, manure is allowed to accumulate until it becomes a further nuisance. This is a roundabout way of dealing with such nuisances, and the same Act, 1875, in the next Section, viz: Section 50, gives the Authority power to require the periodical removal of manure. Notice to such effect must be given by public announcement in the district. Where such notice has been given any person to whom the manure belongs who fails so to remove the same or *permits a further accumulation* and does not continue *such periodical removal at such intervals as the Authority direct* shall be liable without further notice to a penalty of 20/- a day for each day the nuisance continues.

I strongly advise the Authority to put these powers into force, and to require the periodical removal; say once a week of all manure, etc., and the daily removal of fish refuse from fish shops and similar premises.

As the licences for temporary buildings used as stables fall in from time to time, I suggest the advisability of refusing to renew them, unless proper receptacles are provided for the manure, etc.

Medical men have on several occasions drawn my attention to cases of serious disease, due to non-removal of manure, etc.

Upper Dalton Street, Ward Street, South Burn Terrace and the Corporation Yard, are places where such accumulations exist, and require immediate attention.

(Signed) H. E. GAMLEN.”



## HEALTH VISITOR'S WORK AMONGST THE CHILDREN.

The work of the Visitor has been much facilitated in this direction by the "Notification of Births Act," which make notification of the birth within 36 hours after its occurrence compulsory.

A visit is paid to each case as soon after notification as possible, and enquiries made as to the attendance of a doctor.

If a practitioner is in attendance, no further visits are paid until he has ceased to visit. If the mother is being attended solely by a midwife, she is seen by the Nurse, who makes enquiries as to the condition of the child, and advice is given where this appears necessary. As the nurse is also "Inspector of Midwives" enquiries are made as to the condition of the mother, and where negligence appears to exist, the midwife is seen and questioned.

752 visits were paid by the Nurse to newly born babies within 14 days of birth, and 1661 subsequent visits were paid to infants before they were six weeks old. It will be understood that where the mothers are ignorant or careless, more visits are required.

Where it appears necessary, these visits are continued by the Nurse until the child appears to be progressing satisfactorily. A subsequent visit is paid to each child usually about the fifth month after its birth.

Advice is given by the Nurse relative to the clothing and feeding of the child, and the importance of cleanliness in everything pertaining to it.

Where possible the use of dummies is discontinued.

Occasionally unnotified cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum are detected by the Nurse.

Under the heading of Ophthalmia Neonatorum, 672 visits were paid by her to the 25 cases notified.

3 Cases were visited and treated twice daily for 6 weeks

3	„	„	„	3	„
---	---	---	---	---	---

8	„	„	every other day for 6	„
---	---	---	-----------------------	---



In all other cases, the mother was instructed by the Nurse as to the method of cleansing the eyes, and where the mother was intelligent and interested, she was left to carry out the treatment under the supervision of the Nurse.

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

In September, 1912, Cerebro Spinal Meningitis and Anterior Poliomyelitis were added to the diseases already notifiable throughout England and Wales, under the Notification Act of 1889.

In February, 1913, the compulsory notification of all forms of Tuberculosis came into force, while in April, 1914, the notification of Ophthalmia Neonatorum by doctors and midwives was also made compulsory.

The following cases of Infectious Diseases were notified during the year :—

Disease.				No. of Cases.
Scarlet Fever...	...	...	...	146
Diphtheria ...	...	...	...	29
Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	44
Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	16
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	3
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	25
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	112
Other Tubercular Diseases	...	...	...	85
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	...	...	...	1
Total				461

These figures compare very favourably with the previous year, when the total number of cases recorded was 812.

The following table shews the prevalence of the chief notifiable diseases, as compared with the three preceding years :—

DISEASE.	1914 No. of Cases.	1913 No. of Cases.	1912 No. of Cases.	1911 No. of Cases.
Small Pox ... ..	—	—	2	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	146	330	151	118
Diphtheria ... ..	29	69	92	66
Erysipelas ... ..	44	35	26	20
Typhoid Fever ... ..	16	7	15	17
Puerperal Fever ... ..	3	1	2	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	25	7	not notifiable	not notifiable
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ... ..	112	211	164	31
Other forms of Tuberculosis ... ..	85	152	not notifiable	not notifiable
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis ... ..	1	—	—	not notifiable

In the next table, the deaths from the more important Infectious Diseases, are set out for 1914 and for the three previous years.

Disease.	1914 Number of Deaths	1913 Number of Deaths	1912 Number of Deaths	1911 Number of Deaths
Typhoid Fever ... ..	3	5	2	1
Measles ... ..	7	19	62	5
Scarlet Fever ... ..	7	4	5	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	7	8	13	24
Diphtheria and Croup ... ..	5	10	17	15
Influenza ... ..	10	1	6	3
Erysipelas ... ..	—	2	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ... ..	70	71	67	60
Other forms of Tuberculosis ... ..	39	58	44	59
Diarrhœa and Enteritis ... ..	46	46	17	97

## SMALL-POX.

It is pleasing to be able to record that there has been no case of this disease in West Hartlepool since 1912.

Considering the very large amount of shipping going on between Hartlepool and Foreign parts, it is surprising that more cases have not occurred, and the fact that we have been so free from this disease is a tribute to the vigilance and care of the officials of the Hartlepool Port Sanitary Authority in the inspection of ships arriving at this port.

## VACCINATION.

The following statement shows the number of Infants born and the number vaccinated during the year.

				Number.
Births Registered	...	...	...	1894
Conscientious Objectors	...	...	...	430
Successfully Vaccinated	...	...	...	1150
Died Unvaccinated	...	...	...	130
Insusceptible	...	...	...	8
Postponed by Medical Certificate	...	...	...	103
Removed to other districts	...	...	...	11
Lost Sight of	...	...	...	33
Still Under Notice	...	...	...	36

The children who remain unvaccinated because of the conscientious objections of their parents amount to 22, 7% of the total births; and 37, 3% of those successfully vaccinated.

The next table shews the Numbers of Conscientious Objectors to Vaccination for a period of six years.

Year.				Number of Objectors.
1909	...	...	...	148
1910	...	...	...	220
1911	...	...	...	292
1912	...	...	...	322
1913	...	...	...	428
1914	...	...	...	430

It will be seen from this table that the objectors are growing year by year in West Hartlepool, as in many other towns in the country.



That vaccination does protect against attacks of the disease, and does minimise the danger to life when the vaccinated person is attacked, cannot be seriously disputed, and in view of this fact it is a pity that so many of the younger members of the population should remain unprotected, more especially as by present day vaccination methods it is not possible to convey disease from arm to arm.

I would remind your Committee that in my opinion the accommodation for Small Pox patients at the Isolation Hospital is insufficient, in that no provision is made for the housing of the nursing staff there. I would recommend that such accommodation be provided, and if it appeared desirable the buildings could be used temporarily for the nursing and isolation of patients suffering from other diseases.

### TYPHOID FEVER.

The number of Cases and the Deaths in West Hartlepool from this disease are shewn for the past nine years.

Year.	Number of Cases.		Number of Deaths.		Death Rate.	Death Rate England and Wales.		
1906	...	25	...	5	...	.07	...	.09
1907	...	15	...	2	...	.02	...	.07
1908	...	17	...	5	...	.07	...	.07
1909	...	9	...	4	...	.05	...	.06
1910	...	17	...	2	...	.02	...	.05
1911	...	17	...	1	...	.01	...	.07
1912	...	15	...	2	...	.03	...	.04
1913	...	7	...	2	...	.03	...	.04
1914	...	16	...	3	...	.04	...	.05

From the above figures it will be seen that the incidence of this disease is a comparatively low one, and this is perhaps more noteworthy when it is remembered that large numbers of shell fish are collected from the shores and are eaten often uncooked. There is little doubt that Sewage Contaminated Mussels and Oysters can and do spread the disease when eaten in their raw condition, or when insufficiently cooked.



The following are the results of enquiries made to ascertain the source of infection in each case.

	Number
History of Shell-fish eaten cooked...	—
"      "      "      uncooked	1
History of Ice Cream eaten	—
History of Water Cress eaten	—
Any cases in which any other members of family had ever suffered from the disease	1
Any person had this disease on the same premises or close to	—
Imported Cases	5
No history obtainable	9
	<hr/>
	16
	<hr/>

One of the great dangers associated with the conservancy system of sewage disposal is in relation to cases of this disease. Where dry pans or privy ashpits are used by persons suffering from typhoid, and the excrement is allowed to remain sufficiently long to become dry, the disease may be disseminated far and wide by the dust generated in the process of emptying these conveniences. Of the patients notified as suffering from this disease 11 were removed to hospital.

### SCARLET FEVER.

146 Cases of Scarlet Fever were notified during 1914, as compared with 330 in the year 1913, and 7 deaths occurred as compared with 4 in 1913.

The following shews the Scarlet Fever statistics since the year 1907.

Year	Number of Cases	Number of Deaths	Death Rate	Death Rate for Eng. & Wales
1907	145	3	.04	.09
1908	48	0	—	.08
1909	299	5	.07	.09
1910	189	1	.01	.07
1911	118	0	—	.05
1912	151	5	.07	.05
1913	330	4	.06	.06
1914	146	7	.1	.08

The Ward Distribution of the disease is as follows.

North	West	Park	S. West	S. East	Central	N. East	Seaton	Total
26	25	41	20	10	13	3	8	146

It will be noticed that this disease, unlike many of the other diseases, is actually less prevalent in the poorer class areas than it is in the suburbs.

The annexed Chart on page 33 shews the course of the disease in weekly periods during the year.

The next table shews the Age Incidence of the disease, and the Fatality Rate for each period.

		Cases		Deaths.		Proportion of deaths	
		Notified.				to cases	
						per cent.	
Under 1 year	...	—	...	—	...	—	
1 to 2	„	3	...	—	...	—	
2 to 3	„	6	...	1	...	16.6	
3 to 4	„	11	...	2	...	18.1	
4 to 5	„	11	...	—	...	—	
5 to 10	„	68	...	3	...	4.4	
10 to 15	„	32	...	1	...	3.1	
Over 15	„	15	...	—	...	—	
All Ages	...	146	...	7	...	4.7	

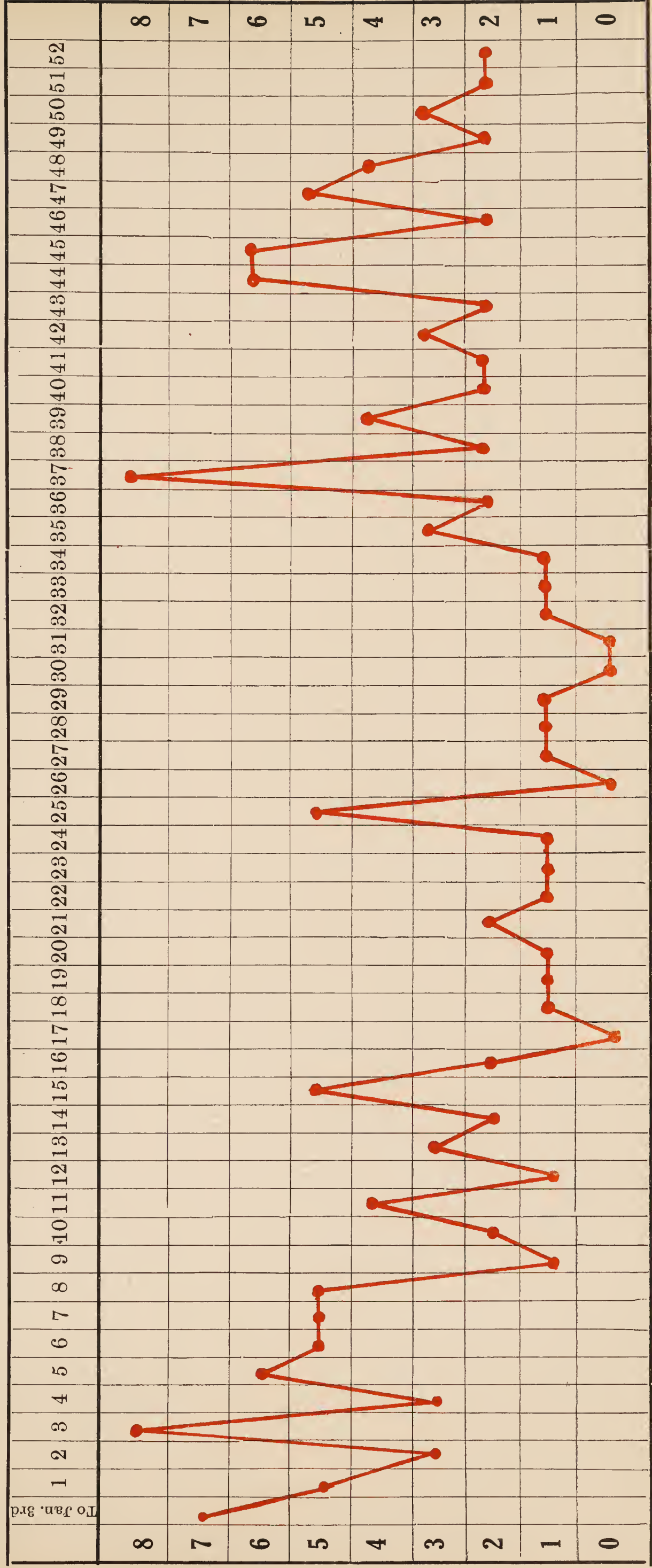
Of the above cases 81 were removed to Hospital, where 78 recovered, and 3 died, giving a fatality rate of 3.84 per cent. Of those nursed at home (65) cases, 61 recovered and 4 died, giving a percentage death rate of 6.15.

### DIPHTHERIA.

29 Cases of this disease were reported during the year, and out of these 2 children died, equivalent to a percentage death rate of 6.8

# Chart showing number of cases of Scarlet Fever notified weekly during the year 1914.

Weeks from January 1st to December 31st.



Total Cases notified 146.





The following is a record of the cases notified since 1907.

Years.	No. of Cases.	No. of Deaths.	Rate per 1,000.	Death Rate of England and Wales.
1907	57	9	.12	.16
1908	62	12	.16	.16
1909	60	12	.16	.15
1910	72	14	.2	.12
1911	66	15	.23	.13
1912	92	17	.26	.11
1913	69	10	.15	.12
1914	29	2	.03	.15

It is to be noted with pleasure that there has been a great falling off in the number of persons attacked by this disease.

Of the 29 cases notified, 9 were removed to Hospital, of whom 1 died, = to a percentage mortality of 3.4. Of those nursed at home 19 recovered and 1 died.

It cannot be too strongly emphasized that the best treatment for this disease is Diphtheria Antitoxin, administered by injection under the skin of the patient. Given in sufficient doses at an early stage of the disease, it rarely fails to save the patient. The serum should be given at the earliest possible moment after the throat lesion has been discovered, and it is infinitely safer to first give a dose of serum and then have the diagnosis confirmed by bacteriological examination, than to await the results of the examination before beginning treatment by this method. Serum is supplied free of charge by the Health Committee, for the use of those patients who cannot afford to pay for this form of treatment.

Applications should be made to the Health Department, Municipal Buildings, for the Diphtheria Antitoxin.

The next table shews the Age Incidence of the disease, and the Deaths at each period.

Age.		Number of cases notified.		Deaths registered.		Proportion per cent. of deaths to cases.
Under 1 year	...	—	...	—	...	—
1 to 2 years	...	1	...	—	...	—
2 to 3	„	1	...	—	...	—
3 to 4	„	5	...	1	...	20 %
4 to 5	„	1	...	—	...	—
5 to 10	„	10	...	1	...	10 %
10 to 15	„	4	...	—	...	—
Over 15	„	7	...	—	...	—
All Ages	...	29	...	2	...	6.8%

Below will be found represented the ward distribution of Diphtheria.

Ward distribution of Diphtheria.

Wards	North	West	Park	S. West	S. East	Central	N. East	Seaton	Total
Number	5	6	5	4	2	5	1	1	29

MEASLES.

The number of cases reported in the Borough during the year, were 50 from the Education Department, while the deaths from this disease registered amounted to 7.

The ages of the children who died were as follows:—

Age.			Number.
Under 1 year	...	...	1
1 to 2 years	...	...	4
2 to 3	„	...	1
3 to 4	„	...	1

The Ward distribution of the deaths is given as follows:—

North	West	Park	S. West	S. East	Central	N. East	Seaton	Total
—	—	—	—	4	1	—	2	7

A comparison of the deaths in the year 1914, with the deaths in previous years is of interest.

Year.		Deaths.		Rate per 1,000.		Rate per 1,000 England and Wales.
1907	...	24	...	.34	...	.36
1908	...	6	...	.08	...	.23
1909	...	95	...	1.3	...	.36
1910	...	21	...	.3	...	.23
1911	...	52	...	.82	...	.36
1912	...	63	...	1.	...	.35
1913	...	19	...	.29	...	.28
1914	...	7	...	.1	...	.24

A very considerable proportion of the deaths from measles is due to the fact that parents look upon the disease as trivial, and that a maximum of three days in bed is sufficient to ensure recovery without the help of the physician.

Too often the child left to its own devices takes its treatment into its own hands, and the result is Bronchitis and death, or Bronchitis Pneumonia and death. I believe one is safe in saying that 90 per cent. of the deaths from Measles are due to Chest Complications which might be avoided with proper care and attention.

Not infrequently one hears of parents who when one of the children of the family contract Measles, to save trouble and time put the other children who have not had the disease to sleep in the same bed as the patient, "so that all may get the disease over and done with for ever."

Such treatment is criminal, and where cases of this kind are discovered the attention of the Society for prevention of Cruelty to Children should be drawn to them.

#### DIARRHŒA AND ENTERITIS.

46 deaths were registered from this cause during 1914, and 26 of the patients who died were infants under one year of age.

The deaths occurring in children under 2 years of age took place in the months as represented below :—

Number of deaths under 2 years.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	2	19	5	1	2	33

The following are the deaths recorded under this heading since 1907 :—

Years.	Deaths under One year.	At other ages unknown.	Total unknown.
1907	... 17	... No record	... No record
1908	... 15	... Do.	... Do.
1909	... 19	... Do.	... Do.
1910	... 32	... Do.	... Do.
1911	... 53	... 44	... 97
1912	... 10	... 7	... 17
1913	... 29	... 17	... 46
1914	... 26	... 20	... 46

The main incidence of summer diarrrhœa usually so fatal began early in September and continued until the early part of October. During this period 25 deaths from this cause were registered.

No one who has studied this disease can have any doubt that a very considerable number of those children who die each year from diarrrhœa could be saved, if mothers exercised that care with regard to cleanliness and feeding of the children which they ought to observe.

It is generally recognised that a child's food should be its Mother's milk, and that alone until it attains the age of 9 to 10 months. Unfortunately this rule is honoured rather in the breach, than in the observance by mothers of the poorer classes.

The usual consequence is that the baby put to the breast each time it cries, soon becomes sick from overfeeding, and cries the more. This process goes on until the child is thoroughly ill, and begins to refuse its milk, and as a consequence of this it gets thinner, and the mother concluding it is not thriving on milk alone, begins to supple-



ment its diet with biscuits, crusts, portion of an egg, etc., while sausage or bacon and potatoes have been given to children who had not yet cut a tooth.

Can it be wondered that a diet such as the above, often washed down with sups of beer, begins that diarrhœa so difficult to control, and so fatal in its results when it occurs in the warm Summer months.

Dirty milk is another frequent cause of diarrhœa, while two of the most potent factors causing this contamination of milk are undoubtedly the house fly and the sucking bottle, where the teat is attached by a long rubber tube to the bottle. These tubes cannot be cleansed except by boiling, which soon renders them useless, while teats alone can be easily turned inside out and well washed.

The following rules should be observed by mothers in feeding infants.

1. The child should be breast fed until 9 or 10 months.
2. It should not be weaned in the summer months.
3. Where breast feeding is impossible, a boat-shaped bottle with a teat only attached, should be used.
4. If possible two boat-shaped bottles should be kept. Bottles should be emptied after each feed and well washed out with warm water, allowed to cool, and then stored in clean cold water until next meal.
5. Fresh milk *only* should be given, diluted with water, lime-water, etc., as required.
6. Milk utensils should be well washed when empty, and allowed to stand full of cold water after washing. They should be scalded before use.
7. Milk should only be stored in clean utensils kept in a well-lighted cool pantry, and during the fly season covered with thin muslin.
8. For infants and young children in the warm months, all cow's milk given should be scalded.

9. A "Dummy" should on no account be given to a child.
10. At the first sign of diarrhœa a doctor should be called in, especially during the summer months.
11. The child should only be fed at regular intervals,  $2\frac{1}{4}$  hourly to 3 or 4 hourly, depending on its age and *not* when it cries.

### WHOOPING COUGH.

7 deaths have been registered as due to this disease.

The mortality in previous years is shewn below.

Year.		Death.		Death rate.		Death rate in England and Wales.
1907	...	24	...	.34	...	.30
1908	...	19	...	.26	...	.28
1909	...	9	...	.12	...	.20
1910	...	53	...	.75	...	.25
1911	...	24	...	.38	...	.21
1912	...	23	...	.36	...	.23
1913	...	8	...	.12	...	.14
1914	...	7	...	.1	...	.21

The ages of those who died is given in the next table.

			Deaths.
Under 1 year	...	...	2
Between 1 and 2 years	...	...	4
„ 2 and 3 years	...	...	—
„ 3 and 4 years	...	...	1
„ 4 and 5 years	...	...	—
Over 5 years...	...	...	—
		Total	7

### ERYSIPELAS.

44 cases of this disease were notified during the year, but no deaths were registered as being due to it.

## CANCER.

64 deaths took place from this disease in 1914, as compared with 56 in 1913.

The mortality from this disease for the past five years is given in the table below.

Year.	No. of deaths.		Death rate.		Death rate in England and Wales.	
1910	...	40	...	.57	...	.97
1911	...	53	...	.84	...	.99
1912	...	62	...	.98	...	1.02
1913	...	56	...	.86	...	1.05
1914	...	64	...	.98	...	—

The deaths at the various ages are shown as follows:—

				Males	Females
Under 25 years	...	...	...	1	1
25 years and under 35 years	...	...	...	4	2
35	„	45	„	1	3
45	„	55	„	7	8
55	„	65	„	8	7
65	„	75	„	6	6
75 years and upwards	...	...	...	8	2

Of these deaths 37 were ascribed to Carcinoma, 3 to Sarcoma, 1 to Epithelioma, 1 to Scirrhus, 1 to Rodent Ulcer, and 21 to Cancer.

Below is given the Ward Distribution of the deaths.

North	West	Park	S. West	S. East	Central	N. East	Seaton	Total
7	8	7	11	6	16	7	2	64

The following list shows the various parts of the body affected in the fatal cases of the disease.

Part Affected.	Number of Deaths
Peritoneum, Intestines and Rectum	... 10
Stomach, Liver, etc.	... 26
Female Genital Organs	... 9
Breast ...	... 5
Mouth ...	... 3
Other Parts	... 11
	64



### SYPHILIS.

The number of deaths certified as due to this disease was 1.

Towns on the coast and especially those towns where shipping is being carried on, are supposed to be more affected with this disease than inland towns. Unfortunately there is no means of estimating the number of such cases until the disease becomes compulsorily notifiable.

### ANTERIOR POLIOMYELITIS AND CEREBRO SPINAL MENINGITIS.

Only one case of Cerebro Spinal Meningitis was notified during the year and none of Anterior Poliomyelitis. The case notified as suffering from this disease died.

The usual disinfection is carried out after the recovery or death of any case of these diseases, and undoubtedly it is important that this should be done, as the former disease especially, frequently assumes epidemic form.

### BRONCHITIS AND PNEUMONIA.

202 deaths were ascribed to these two diseases during the year, amounting to 19.5 of the total deaths, or a death rate per 1000 of 3.1, as compared with 3.16 for the year 1913.

Below is given the mortality figure for each disease for the past 3 years.

Year	Bronchitis Deaths	Death Rate	England and Wales Death Rate	Pneumonia Deaths	Death Rate	England and Wales Death Rate
1912	69	1.09	1.08	58	.92	1.02
1913	144	2.21	1.06	62	.95	1.02
1914	93	1.43	—	112	1.72	—

The mortality from these diseases is high, and as will be seen from the annexed table is higher in the poorer and more congested areas of the town.

This is probably the result of several circumstances, namely the more exposed employment of the poorer classes, the poorer ventilation in their homes, often insufficient or improper nourishment, insufficient clothing, all combining to lower the vitality of the class under consideration.



The Ward distribution of these diseases is as follows :—

		North	West	Park	S. West	S. East	Central	N. East	Seaton	Total
Bronchitis	...	11	10	6	7	18	25	9	7	93
Pneumonia	...	9	10	9	12	19	28	14	11	112

The death rate figures for the Wards are :—

		North	West	Park	S. West	S. East	Central	N. East	Seaton
Bronchitis	...	.16	.15	.09	.1	.27	.38	.13	.1
Pneumonia	...	.13	.15	.13	.18	.29	.43	.21	.16
Total	...	.3	.3	.23	.29	.56	.81	.35	.27

The ages at which death took place are shewn in the next table.

Year.		Bronchitis	Pneumonia.
Under 1 year	...	39	24
1 to 2 years	...	10	15
2 to 3 „	...	5	7
3 to 4 „	...	3	6
4 to 5 „	...	—	4
5 to 10 „	...	—	4
10 to 15 „	...	—	3
15 to 20 „	...	—	2
20 to 25 „	...	—	1
25 to 35 „	...	—	7
35 to 45 „	...	2	4
45 to 55 „	...	6	9
55 to 65 „	...	6	15
65 and upwards	...	22	11

The monthly record of deaths from these diseases is as shewn below.

Disease.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Bronchitis	21	12	11	8	9	4	1	1	2	4	7	13	93
Pneumonia	20	13	14	11	10	9	4	7	4	5	7	8	112
Total ...	41	25	25	19	19	13	5	8	6	9	14	21	205

## TUBERCULOSIS.

The mortality from this cause is shewn in the next table.

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.							OTHER FORMS OF TUBERCULOSIS.					
Year.	No. of Deaths.			Death rate England and Wales.			No. of Deaths.			Death rate England and Wales.		
1907	...	61	...	.87	...	1.15	...	66	...	.94	...	.47
1908	...	67	...	.94	...	1.12	...	74	...	1.04	...	.47
1909	...	58	...	.81	...	1.09	...	58	...	.81	...	.45
1910	...	51	...	.72	...	1.01	...	52	...	.74	...	.42
1911	...	60	...	.95	...	1.08	...	59	...	.93	...	.38
1912	...	67	...	1.06	...	1.04	...	44	...	.69	...	.33
1913	...	71	...	1.09	...	1.00	...	58	...	.89	...	.34
1914	...	70	...	1.07	...		...	39	...	.6	...	

Compulsory notification of Pulmonary Tuberculosis was introduced early in 1912, and in February, 1913, it became the duty of Doctors to notify all cases of Tuberculosis, irrespective of the part of the body affected.

## PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

112 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified in 1914, and of these 90 were new cases, of the other Tubercular Diseases 85 notifications were received.

## Ward distribution of Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

North	West	Park	S. West	S. East	Central	N. East	Seaton	Total
17	19	17	13	9	26	9	2	112

## Age Incidence of Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

Ages.	Cases Notified.		Deaths Registered.		Percentage Mortality.	
Under 1 year	...	—	...	—	...	—
1 to 5	...	5	...	5	...	100 %
5 to 10	...	5	...	2	...	40 %
10 to 15	...	9	...	7	...	77.7 %
15 to 20	...	14	...	7	...	50.0 %
20 to 25	...	15	...	5	...	33.3 %
25 to 35	...	29	...	12	...	41.3 %
35 to 45	...	17	...	17	...	100 %
45 to 55	...	10	...	8	...	80 %
55 to 65	...	7	...	6	...	85.7 %
65 and upwards	...	1	...	—	...	—
Totals ...	...	112	...	69	...	61.6 %

Note:—One death (age 35—45) notified in 1913 has been omitted from these figures, so as to make the fatality per cent. figures of the cases in 1914 correspond with the number notified.

211 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified in 1913, as compared with 112 in the year 1914. This is quite natural in view of the fact that a large number of cases of the disease were notified as soon as notification became compulsory for all forms of the disease in 1913.

#### Sex Incidence of Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

	Cases notified.			Deaths registered.	
	Males	Females		Males	Females
Under 5 years	2	3	...	2	3
5 to 10 „	1	4	...	1	1
10 to 15 „	2	7	...	3	4
15 to 20 „	5	9	...	5	2
20 to 25 „	7	8	...	3	2
25 to 35 „	25	4	...	6	6
35 to 45 „	8	9	...	10	8
45 to 55 „	7	3	...	5	3
55 to 65 „	6	1	...	4	2
65 and upwards	—	1	...	—	—
	—	—		—	—
All Ages	63	49		39	31
	—	—		—	—
Rate per 1,000	.96	.75		.6	.47

#### OTHER FORMS OF TUBERCULOSIS.

Under this heading there were 85 cases notified during the past year.

#### Ward distribution of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

North	West	Park	S. East	S. West	Central	N. East	Seaton	Total
10	16	17	10	15	6	2	9	85

In the next table will be found the age and sex of each patient, with the particular part affected by the disease.







Comparative statistics are not available, as notifications only became compulsory of the non-pulmonary forms of disease in February, 1913.

Notifications for Tuberculosis during 1914 were as follows.

		Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
Notifications by General Practitioners		88	65
„ Parish Doctors	...	20	—
„ Medical Officers of Institutions	...	3	19
„ School Medical Officers		1	1
		<hr/> 112 <hr/>	<hr/> 85 <hr/>

A very considerable proportion of the patients notified as suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, had their Sputum examined as an aid to diagnosis.

Arrangements have been made by the Health Committee whereby practitioners can have the Sputum of patients resident in the Borough, examined free of charge. In this way 181 samples of sputum were examined by the Medical Officer in 1914, with the result that 65 of them showed Tubercle Bacilli, while in 116 cases the organism was not found.

Each patient notified, except those in Hospital or other institutions, was visited by the Tuberculosis Visitor. 807 visits were paid by her to Tuberculosis cases during the year, and of those 97 were primary visits.

The Tuberculosis patients are often found living under the most insanitary conditions, crowded in with the other members of the family in a small house, with windows hermetically sealed.

Not infrequently they are discovered sleeping with two or three other persons (wife and children) in the same bed, spitting anywhere and everywhere, and taking no precautions of any kind.

It is to correct errors of this nature, and to advise about food and other questions, that the efforts of the Tuberculosis Visitor are directed.

It is to be hoped that in the near future some scheme will be adopted by your Committee for the examination and treatment of all cases of this disease.

A step in this direction has been made by a Voluntary Organisation, interested in the treatment of sufferers from Tuberculosis.

Eight shelters have been provided to enable patients who are sleeping under unfavourable conditions at home, to obtain the open-air treatment as far as possible.

The shelters are in the nature of a night camp, and were intended for those patients able to continue at work, but anxious to do everything possible towards improving their condition.

It is to be hoped that the doctors in the Borough will do all they can to encourage their patients to take advantage of these shelters, so that the patients may be benefitted by this form of treatment, and educated to the advantages of the "open window" and a plentiful supply of fresh air.

#### Disinfection after Tuberculosis.

After the death or removal from a house of a person suffering from Consumption, or other infectious tubercular condition, an attempt is always made to have complete disinfection of the house or rooms carried out.

In the latter case the bedding is removed to be disinfected by steam, while the room is fumigated or sprayed, and where it appears desirable a notice requiring the stripping of the paper is served.

More power for compulsory disinfection of all articles and houses infected by Consumptives is required.

#### INSURED TUBERCULOSIS PATIENTS.

The following information received from the Secretary of the Insurance Committee, has reference to insured persons only.

	No.
(1) Insured persons in receipt of Sanatorium benefit for year ending 31st December ... ..	118

(2)	Total number of persons who have received Sanatorium benefit at home (domiciliary treatment)	...	...	87
(3)	At present (31st December) in Sanatorium, males	3	}	6
	females	3		
(4)	At present at home on domiciliary treatment, males	16	}	28
	females	12		
(5)	Insured persons who made use of shelters	...	...	4
(6)	Insured persons to whom nourishment was provided	Males 28, Females 5		33
(7)	Insured persons in receipt of benefit for 26 weeks or more during the year	...	...	42

Towards the middle of the year 1908, a bye-law was passed prohibiting spitting in public carriages or in public halls. If this law were extended to making spitting on footpaths an offence, and notices to this effect erected on lampposts, it would diminish to some extent the spread of such diseases as Tuberculosis.

#### TUBERCULOSIS AND THE MILK SUPPLY.

Mr. Benjamin Hoadley, M.R.C.V.S., has submitted the following report for the year 1914.

Seven cows were inspected during the year for Tuberculosis, under the Tuberculosis Order of 1913. Samples of milk were taken from five of them, and a bacteriological analysis for the detection of tubercle bacilli was made. The result was positive (tubercle bacilli present) in one case only, the other four being negative.

The diseased animal was slaughtered.

The small number of examinations made is accounted for by the fact that the Tuberculosis Order of 1913 was revoked and superseded by Order of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries, as from the 6th August last.

Consequently during the latter five months of the year, there was no order under the Diseases of Animals Acts, 1894-1914, dealing with Bovine Tuberculosis.

#### PUERPERAL FEVER.

Three cases of this disease were notified during the past year, and no deaths occurred amongst these patients.



It is probable that owing to vagueness in the use of the term Puerperal Fever, many of the milder cases of septic infection during the puerperium escape notification, and only the more serious cases are brought to the notice of this department.

The following table gives the cases that have been notified in the Borough with the deaths during the past eight years.

Years.	No. of		No. of		Per 1,000 Births	
	Cases.		Deaths.		No. of Cases	No. of Deaths
1907	2	...	—	...	.96	—
1908	1	...	—	...	.46	—
1909	—	...	—	...	—	—
1910	2	...	1	...	1.07	.53
1911	4	...	3	...	2.15	1.62
1912	2	...	1	...	1.1	.55
1913	1	...	1	...	.52	.52
1914	3	...	—	...	1.58	—

In 1914 the above cases were attended as follows.

Number

— attended by a certified midwife alone.

3 „ „ „ and doctor.

— „ nurse or uncertified midwife alone.

— „ doctor alone.

— „ nurse or uncertified midwife and doctor.

No two cases occurred in the practice of the same midwife.

That there is no hospital where such patients can be admitted for treatment, is a matter that should be remedied at an early moment. A number of authorities have made provision for these cases in hospitals, thereby giving them the best chance of recovery by securing skilful nursing for them such as is not available in their homes. It is to be anticipated that under the Maternity and Infant Welfare Scheme, a grant in aid of such beds would be made by the Local Government Board.

#### MIDWIVES' ACT.

12 Midwives signified their intention to practice in the Borough last year, and at the end of the year the list remained the same.



There was no case of serious breach of the rules of the Central Midwives' Board during the year, and your Committee had only to deal with one case in which there was not sufficient evidence to proceed against the midwife. Several minor offences were dealt with by the Medical Officer of Health.

770 Births were attended by the Midwives alone.

No case of contravention of the act on the part of Uncertified Midwives, came to the knowledge of the Authority during the year.

### OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

This disease was made notifiable by Doctor or Midwife in April, 1914.

The Public Health (Ophthalmia Neonatorum) Regulations, 1914, define this disease as "a purulent discharge from the eyes of an infant, commencing within 21 days from the date of its birth."

Under the Rules of the Central Midwives' Board the help of a doctor must be obtained if any inflammation is noticed in the eyes of newly born children, and following upon this the Midwife must notify the Medical Officer of health of having called in medical help and for what reason, so that notifications of the disease should reach this office in two ways.

25 cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum were notified during the year.

The results of treatment are shown in the following table:—

					Number of Cases.
Complete Recovery	...	...	...	...	23
Died ...	...	...	...	...	—
Blind in one Eye	...	...	...	...	—
Large Corneal Opacities	...	...	...	...	2
Complete Blindness	...	...	...	...	—
Small Nebulæ	...	...	...	...	—
Weak Eyes	...	...	...	...	—
No result recorded	...	...	...	...	—
					<hr/> 25 <hr/>

The cases were treated by the Doctor, Health Visitor, Midwife or Mother, as follows:—

17 by Doctor and Health Visitor  
7 by Doctor and Midwife  
1 by Doctor alone

No cases were removed to the hospital in the first instance or treated there primarily.

The following are the particulars of the two cases that were partially blinded by the disease.

*Case A.*—Child was born 30th May, and discharge began three days afterwards, six days later the case was notified by the doctor in attendance. The nurse discovered the opacities at her first visit which was immediately following notification. She continued the treatment under the doctor in attendance for six weeks, and the child was then sent to hospital.

*Case B.*—Child was born 18th July. Nurse visited on the routine visit 22nd July. The eyes were very bad (full of pus), the case was not notified. The eyes began to be bad on 3rd day after birth, and the midwife diagnosed cold. The Doctor was called in on July 22nd, and opacities were seen within a few days. The child was attended six weeks, and was then sent to hospital.

All cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum notified, were visited by the Health Visitor.

In this way 672 visits were paid by her to these cases.

The following is an analysis of her visits to Ophthalmia Patients:—

2	Patients	visited	once
3	„	„	twice
6	„	„	frequently
3	„	„	84 times each
3	„	„	42 „
8	„	„	21 „

It will be obvious that the children visited thus frequently were suffering from a virulent attack of the disease, and for cases of unusual severity it is generally admitted that Institutional treatment is essential. I would therefore suggest that arrangements be made with the local hospital, if possible, for the admission of both mother and child in bad cases of this disease.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED MONTHLY.

Months	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Erysipelas	Enteric or Typhoid	Puerperal Fever	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Pulmonary Tubercul'sis	Other Tubercular Diseases	Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	Totals
January	26	3	7	1	...	...	6	11	...	54
February	21	2	6	1	...	...	18	8	...	56
March	9	5	3	1	...	...	12	14	...	44
April	11	5	10	...	1	7	18	13	...	65
May	5	4	3	1	...	2	13	6	1	35
June	8	3	2	2	...	2	12	8	...	37
July	3	...	3	1	...	4	14	4	...	29
August	5	1	1	2	...	3	1	6	...	19
September	15	1	2	1	1	1	4	6	...	31
October	11	3	...	3	...	2	3	...	...	22
November	20	1	2	2	...	...	2	3	...	30
December	12	1	5	1	1	4	9	6	...	39
Totals	146	29	44	16	3	25	112	85	1	461



INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING YEAR 1914.

Infectious Diseases notified during year.										Total cases notified in each Locality (Wards).							
Notifiable Diseases.	At all Ages	Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 and upwards	North	West	Park	S. West	S. East	Central	N. East	Seaton	Total cases removed to Hospital.
Small Pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria	29	...	11	13	4	1	...	...	5	6	5	4	2	5	1	1	9
Erysipelas	44	...	...	1	7	16	16	4	9	7	6	9	2	6	1	4	...
Scarlet Fever	146	...	46	85	9	6	...	...	26	25	41	20	10	13	3	8	81
Typhoid and Enteric Fever	16	...	...	1	7	7	1	...	2	...	3	2	2	1	2	4	11
Puerperal Fever	3	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	...	...	...
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	112	...	6	15	26	51	13	1	17	19	17	13	9	26	9	2	...
Other Forms Tuberculosis	85	8	19	30	18	8	2	...	10	16	17	15	10	6	2	9	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum...	25	25	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	5	5	3	...	5	2	2	...
Totals	461	33	82	145	72	92	32	5	72	79	94	67	35	64	20	30	101



## BACTERIOLOGICAL DIAGNOSIS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The Medical Officer of Health has a private laboratory which affords facilities to local practitioners for obtaining bacteriological assistance in the diagnosis of infectious diseases.

During the year 1914, 181 samples of Sputum were examined for Tubercle Bacilli, 65 being positive and 116 negative. One blood was examined for Typhoid Fever, which was negative.

Four samples of Milk were tested microscopically for Tubercle Bacilli, and upon examination negative results were obtained in all cases.

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## CONTAGIOUS DISEASES OF ANIMALS.

The following figures have been submitted by Mr. Benjamin Hoadley, M.R.C.V.S., Veterinary Surgeon to the Corporation.

I have much pleasure in reporting that the following animals were examined by me during the year 1914.

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE.—One suspected case of this disease was reported at the Abattoirs, but on examination, it proved to be one of Submanillary Abscess, causing foaming, etc.

SWINE FEVER.—Six outbreaks were reported to me by the Police, during the month of April. In all 57 pigs were affected. Many of the animals died, and the remainder were slaughtered and buried in "quick lime," according to the order of the Board.

The outbreaks were due to infected animals being brought into the district. My opinion is that the feeding of these animals on "swill" from the military billets, can give rise to this disease.

PARASITIC MANGE.—Four horses were reported to me during the months of January, February, and March. All of the cases were most acute, but it was not necessary to destroy the animals.

There were no cases of Anthrax, Glanders, or Rabies reported.

(Signed) BENJAMIN HOADLEY, M.R.C.V.S.,  
Veterinary Surgeon.

## DISINFECTION.

Disinfection is carried out by the Corporation, free of charge, after the recovery or removal of a patient suffering from one or other of the notifiable diseases, *e.g.* Small-Pox, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Typhoid and Typhus Fever, Puerperal Fever, and Tuberculosis.

In all cases the method followed is to disinfect the room by fumigation through the agency of Formic Aldehyde gas, generated by the burning of the precipitate. Beds and clothing are removed to be disinfected by steam under pressure.

The same methods have now been made applicable to cases of Tuberculosis. It is hoped with a more plentiful supply of Formalin that spraying will be carried out in all cases in the future.

Dwelling houses found to be in a filthy condition are fumigated, and following upon this, notices are served to cleanse and lime-wash. Disinfectants and lime are supplied free of charge, and whitewash brushes are lent to persons of the poorer classes for cleansing their homes.

Notices and instructions are left at each house after one of the above diseases has occurred, intimating that all washable articles of clothing, etc., should be boiled and washed, and that stripping of the wallpaper should be carried out in the infected room.

## DETAILS OF DISINFECTION, ETC.

	Number
Houses fumigated ... ..	314
Rooms ... ..	364
Rooms and articles fumigated together ...	120

The following articles removed from 244 rooms were disinfected by steam.

Beds ... ..	285
Pillows and Bolsters ... ..	450
Carpets and Rugs ... ..	207
Articles of Clothing ... ..	452
Sheets, Blankets and Quilts ... ..	1128
Sundry Articles ... ..	210
Total ... ..	2732

49 articles infected and filthy were sent to the destructor.

Since the outbreak of War, the steam disinfector has been extensively used by the Military for the purpose of disinfecting soldiers' beds, bedding, clothing, etc.

By an arrangement between the Military and the Health Department, the former are given the use of the Disinfector so far as possible when they require it.

Many of the billets occupied by the troops have also been disinfected.

### WATER SUPPLY TO THE BOROUGH.

The water supply to West Hartlepool is obtained through the Gas and Water Company—this is a private enterprise.

The water is derived largely from magnesium limestone strata, which are tapped by "deep wells."

A sample of this water taken during the year yielded the following analysis.

Sample received from West Hartlepool on the 26th May, 1914, and marked 510.

#### ANALYSIS OF SAMPLE BY J. H. STOCK, ESQ., B.Sc., F.I.C.

Colour and appearance in two foot tube.				Colourless and clear.
Odour when heated to 100 Fahr. ...				... None
				Grains per gallon
Chlorine as Chlorides	...	...	...	7.0000
Nitrogen as Nitrates	...	...	...	.0683
Ammonia	...	...	...	.0039
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	..	None
Oxygen Absorption	...	...	...	None
Injurious Metals	...	...	...	None
Total Solid Matter dried at 220 Fahr.	...	...	...	65.1000
Microscopical Examination	...	...	...	Satisfactory

### OBSERVATIONS.

The sample is of good and wholesome quality for drinking purposes.

CYRIL J. H. STOCK.



From the above it will be seen that the water is an excellent one for drinking purposes, but owing to its extreme hardness (about 40 degrees) it is unsuitable for other domestic uses. If some method of softening this water were adopted a considerable economy would be effected in many departments.

### WELLS IN THE BOROUGH.

During the visits paid by the Inspectors at house to house inspection "wells" are occasionally discovered that are the only source for supplying drinking water to the house in question. From seven such wells discovered during the year samples were obtained and sent to the Borough Analyst for examination.

These samples of 'well' water were all condemned as being unfit for drinking purposes. The general features of the analysis showed a high proportion of nitrogen as nitrates arising from the oxidation of nitrogenous matter of animal origin, and a large proportion of chlorine and of total solid matter.

The microscopical examination generally showed the presence of earthy matter, decomposing vegetable matter, fungus growths moving organisms, fibres of cotton and starch granules.

Notices were served requiring the "wells" to be filled in, and for the Company's Water to be supplied to the 12 houses previously obtaining their drinking water from these wells.

All the notices have been complied with, although in one instance it was necessary to summon the owner before the magistrates who made an order requiring the well to be permanently closed within 28 days. This was complied with and the houses were supplied with Town's water.

It is thought that some wells still exist in the Borough from which drinking water is obtained, and it is hoped that these will be dealt with during the course of the next year.



## DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS.

In West Hartlepool there are 96 Milkshops, 29 Purveyors of Milk, and 6 Cowsheds registered.

109 visits of inspection were paid to this class of premises with the following results.

COWSHEDS.—In one case two notices were served during the year to properly cleanse the byres and remove accumulations of manure, the work was not carried out and proceedings were taken. A fine of £2 0s. 0d., with costs £1 10s. 6d., being inflicted in the first case, and a £2 0. 0d. fine, and 9s. 6d. costs, in the second case. The other cowsheds have been maintained in a fairly satisfactory condition.

MILKSHOPS.—There can be little doubt that these are far too numerous. The majority of the shops sell milk merely as a side line, and it would be in the public interests if the sale of milk was restricted to persons practically able to confine themselves to the dairy business.

Unfortunately the law does not empower us to insist upon this, and any person giving one month's notice to the local authority of his intention to commence the business of a dairyman may sell milk from any premises whether suitable or not. If the premises or milk vessels are not kept clean the occupier may be proceeded against under the Bye-laws.

Milk sold in these unsuitable premises can be and is contaminated to a very considerable extent both by the careless or uncleanly vendor, and by the dust and dirt generated by the other articles sold in the shop. If power to discriminate when registering premises were given, the milk would reach the customers purchasing from these places in a much more cleanly state.

## COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are 17 Registered Common Lodging Houses within the Borough with accommodation for 410 lodgers.

During the year, five houses were newly registered under Section 69 (2) of the Public Health (Amendment) Act, 1907, for a period of twelve months.

Two of these were only open for a short period and were then given up. One of the older registered houses was closed.

Of the total number of Common Lodging Houses, 13 are now registered under Section 69 (2) of the Public Health (Amendment) Act 1907.

During the year 112 visits were made both during the day and night, to ascertain whether the Bye-laws were being infringed.

The houses were, generally speaking, found to be in a satisfactory condition, and no proceedings before the Magistrates were necessary.

The following is a list of the Registered Common Lodging Houses in the Borough, together with the number of Lodgers:—

SITUATION.				Registered Number of Lodgers.	No. of Rooms.
1	25, York street	...	...	27	8
2	18, Rokeby street	...	...	18	6
3	138, Burbank street	...	...	33	8
4	23, St. John street	...	...	18	5
5	26, George street	...	...	18	5
6	14, Mainsforth terrace	...	...	20	7
7	15, Mainsforth terrace	...	...	19	8
8	4, South street	...	...	22	4
9	7, Tennant street	...	...	30	8
10	George street (Albion Chambers)	...	...	66	6
11	3, Redworth street	...	...	12	2
12	16, Mainsforth terrace	...	...	56	23
13	2, Edward street	...	...	22	4
14	32, South street	...	...	16	3
15	29, George street	...	...	11	3
16	33, George street	...	...	7	3
17	88, Mainsforth terrace	...	...	15	3
				410	106

### HOUSES-LET-IN-LODGINGS.

The number of Registered Houses-let-in-Lodgings in the Borough is 24, being an increase of one over the previous year.

Four new houses-let-in-lodgings were registered in 1914.

Three houses (including one registered during the year) have discontinued being used as houses-let-in-lodgings.

During the year under review 62 visits were made, both during the day and night time to ascertain whether there was any contravening of the Regulations.

The whole of the houses registered under the West Hartlepool Improvement and Extension Act, 1870, are with the exception of two, let furnished at rentals varying from 3/6 to 5/6 per room.

Premises of this class require constant supervision to prevent overcrowding and uncleanness. The houses are usually occupied by the class of tenant who requires no furniture of his own and to whom "moving" is almost an everyday occurrence.

### BOROUGH ABATTOIR AND MEATSHOP.

Considerable attention has been devoted to the Abattoir and Meatshops, and 309 visits were paid to them.

84 beasts suffering from Tuberculosis, and one from Anæmia, were examined; 3 suffering from Tuberculosis, and one from Anæmia, were condemned and destroyed. In the 81 other cases the carcasses after stripping were passed for sale, with the exception of the offal, which was destroyed.

2 Pigs which died in course of transit were destroyed.

5 Sheep found dead and one suffering from dropsy, and one from emaciation were destroyed.

During the year, 4,239 beasts, 13,210 sheep and lambs, 359 calves, and 5,976 pigs have been slaughtered at the Abattoir.

There are no private slaughterhouses in the Borough.



## MEAT, ETC., DESTROYED AS UNFIT FOR HUMAN FOOD.

4 Carcasses of Beasts.

17 „ Pigs destroyed under Swine Fever  
Regulations.

7 „ Sheep.

247 Pieces of Offal.

30 lbs. of Meat.

1 stone of Tomatoes.

## SCAVENGING.

During the year the Contractors have carried out their work on the whole in a satisfactory manner.

The Council have made arrangements, commencing in January 1915, to undertake the whole of the scavenging work in the town themselves, but the work in the Seaton Carew area will be carried out by contract as in former years.

The bulk of the refuse is now destroyed at the Destructor, and very little is disposed of elsewhere.



TABLE OF LOADS REMOVED AND DESTROYED.

1914	Total Number of loads of House Refuse collected and distributed.			Loads of House and Sundry Refuse consumed at Destructor.		
Month.	To Destructor	To Farms	Total	Collected by Corporation	Delivered by Trades-people	Total
January ...	1,599	324	1,923	1,923	227	2,150
February ...	1,458	210	1,668	1,668	175	1,843
March ...	1,588	272	1,860	1,860	208	2,068
April ...	1,532	292	1,824	1,824	165	1,989
May ...	1,589	220	1,809	1,809	167	1,976
June ...	1,495	172	1,667	1,667	187	1,854
July ...	1,502	206	1,708	1,708	195	1,903
August ...	1,406	103	1,509	1,509	190	1,699
September ...	1,431	107	1,538	1,538	180	1,718
October ...	1,521	143	1,664	1,664	196	1,860
November ...	1,531	168	1,699	1,699	175	1,874
December ...	1,587	272	1,859	1,859	185	2,044
Total ...	18,239	2,489	20,728	20,728	2,250	22,978

These figures do not include the scavenging of Seaton Carew. All the household refuse from this area is deposited on a tip situated just outside the Borough boundary.

## SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS CARRIED OUT DURING 1914.

Nature of Nuisance, etc.				Number of Nuisances Registered.
Drains not properly trapped	...	...	...	68
„ Defective	...	...	...	51
„ Stopped	...	...	...	49
Cleanse and limewash dirty dwellings and workshops	...	...	...	117
Repair yard pavements	...	...	...	135
„ spouts and fall pipes	...	...	...	160
„ dwelling house roofs	...	...	...	48
Convert privies and ashpits into w.c.'s and dry ashpans	...	...	...	281
Abate overcrowding in dwellings	...	...	...	21
„ „ cowsheds	...	...	...	1
Cleanse and repair cowsheds	...	...	...	3
„ „ bakehouses	...	...	...	2
Repair water closets	...	...	...	128
Provide additional w.c.'s.	...	...	...	4
Remove offensive accumulations of manure	...	...	...	12
Animals improperly kept	...	...	...	13
Provide dustpans	...	...	...	5
„ ashcloset doors	...	...	...	138
Clean out rain-water wells	...	...	...	21
Cease throwing slops into ashpits	...	...	...	4
Remove accumulations of offensive stagnant water	...	...	...	2
Provide pure water supply	...	...	...	27
Other nuisances	...	...	...	562
Total				1,852

## INSPECTIONS MADE.

4,321	Dwelling houses, Shops and other premises
154	Visits to Factories and Workshops
63	„ Houses let in lodgings
112	„ Common Lodging Houses
94	„ Dairies and Milkshops
15	„ Cowsheds
49	„ Fish, Fruit, and Meat Shops
260	„ Abattoirs
446	Drains tested with smoke machine
201	Complaints received attention
1,001	Informal Notices served
295	Statutory Notices served

PROSECUTIONS BEFORE MAGISTRATES BY THE SANITARY AUTHORITY, 1914.

Date	Nature of Offence.	Fines	Orders Made.	Costs
January 21st ...	Slaughtering on unlicensed premises (2 sheep)	£1 10s.	...	8/6
March 25th ...	Milk not of the nature, quality and substance demanded ...	...	Case withdrawn. Summons not served by Police in time ...	...
April 17th ...	Cowshed not kept in a cleanly state (Prosecution under Bye-laws)	£2	...	£1 10s. 6d.
April 17th ...	Contravention of Regulations relat- ing to Houses-let-in-Lodgings. Per- sons of opposite sex occupying a room and not married ...	£1	...	£1 11s. 6d.
July 29th ...	Failing to comply with notice to close a well and provide Com- pany's water ...	...	Order made for well to be closed within 28 days ...	...
September 15th	Cowshed not kept in a cleanly con- dition (Prosecution under Bye- laws) ...	£2	...	9/6
November 4th ...	Milk not of nature, quality and substance demanded ...	£1	...	£1 1s.
November 4th ...	„ „ „ „	...	Case dismissed. Both sides to pay their own costs ...	...
December 2nd ...	„ „ „ „	...	Proceedings had been taken but with- drawn. Vendor produced warranty whereupon Corporation withdrew proceedings	...
		£7/10/0		£5/1/0

## FOOD AND DRUGS.

127 Samples have been taken during the year.

101 were certified to be genuine, 5 doubtful, and 21 adulterated.

Articles			No. Taken	Genuine	Doubtful	Adulterated or
						below normal standard
Milk	...	...	45	30	—	15
Coffee	...	...	2	2	—	—
Sugar	...	...	2	2	—	—
Cream	...	...	4	2	—	2
Butter	...	...	21	19	—	2
Butter and Margarine	...		1	1	—	—
Lemonade	...	...	1	—	1	—
Margarine	...	...	2	2	—	—
Cheese	...	...	1	1	—	—
Lard...	...	...	5	5	—	—
Marmalade	...	...	2	2	—	—
Beer ...	...	...	1	1	—	—
Dripping	...	...	2	2	—	—
Strawberry Jam		...	1	1	—	—
Arrowroot	...	...	2	2	—	—
Mustard	...	...	2	2	—	—
Pepper	...	...	2	2	—	—
Bread	...	...	4	4	—	—
Sago	...	...	1	—	—	1
Glycerine	...	...	1	1	—	—
Paregoric	...	...	1	1	—	—
Camphorated Oil		...	1	1	—	—
Olive Oil	...	...	1	1	—	—
Liquorice Powder		...	2	2	—	—
Castor Oil	...	...	3	2	—	1
Ground Almonds		...	2	2	—	—
Ground Ginger		...	2	2	—	—



## FOOD AND DRUGS—continued.

Articles			No. Taken	Genuine	Doubtful	Adulterated or below normal standard
Baking Powder	...	...	1	1	—	—
Arrowroot	...	...	1	1	—	—
Fine Oatmeal	...	...	1	1	—	—
Beer (mild)	...	...	1	1	—	—
Beer (bitter)	...	...	1	1	—	—
Whiskey	...	...	3	—	3	—
Gin	...	...	2	2	—	—
Rum	...	...	2	1	1	—
Brandy	...	...	1	1	—	—
			127	101	5	21

## SUMMARY OF SAMPLES TAKEN.

				Number of Samples.
First Quarter	...	...	...	31
Second Quarter	...	...	...	30
Third Quarter	...	...	...	17
Fourth Quarter	...	...	...	49
Total				127

The following samples were taken informally:—

Butter	...	...	10
Bread	...	...	2
Sago	...	...	1
Milk	...	...	2
Glycerine	...	...	1
Paregoric	...	...	1
Camphorated Oil	...	...	1
Olive Oil	...	...	1
Liquorice Powder	...	...	2
Castor Oil	...	...	2
Fine Oatmeal	...	...	1
Margarine	...	...	1
Beer	...	...	2
Total			27 samples.

The following is a list of the samples found to be adulterated or below standard, and the action taken in each case.

Number	Article.	Result of Analysis.	Remarks.
832	Milk ...	Deficient in non-fatty solids corresponding to an addition of 1.90% water.	Vendor cautioned by Health Committee.
838	Cream	Contained Boric Compound equivalent to .217% of Boric Acid or 15.9 grains per pound of Boric Acid.	
846	Milk ...	Deficient in fat to the extent of 7.7%.	
851	Milk ...	Deficient in fat to the extent of 10%.	
852	Milk ...	Deficient in fat to the extent of 6.7%.	
866	Milk ...	Deficient in non-fatty solids to the extent of 3.06%.	
879	Milk ...	Deficient in non-fatty solids to the extent of 2.3%.	
881	Milk ...	Deficient (slightly) in non-fatty solids.	
906	Milk ...	Deficient in non-fatty solids to the extent of 1.65%.	
909	Milk ...	Deficient in non-fatty solids to the extent of 3.06%.	
833	Milk ...	Deficient in non-fatty solids to the extent of 16.24%.	Proceedings instituted but case withdrawn, summons not served by police in time.

Number	Article.	Result of Analysis.	Remarks.
888	Sago ...	Found to be Tapioca not Sago.	Committee decided that no action be taken.
889	Milk ...	Deficient in fat to the extent of 16.67%.	This was an informal sample. Formal sample taken and found to be genuine.
892	Cream	Boric Compounds equivalent to .281% of Boric Acid (or 19.67 grains per pound.	Explanation demanded by Health Committee.
896	Milk ...	Deficient in non-fatty solids to the extent of 18.83%.	Proceedings instituted. Fined £1, and Costs £1 1s.
897	Milk ...	Deficient in non-fatty solids to the extent of 9.06%.	Proceedings instituted. Case dismissed, both sides to pay own costs.
908	Milk ...	Deficient in fat to the extent of 10%.	Proceedings instituted but withdrawn. Vendor produced warranty whereupon the Corporation withdrew proceedings.
915	Milk ...	Deficient in non-fatty solids to the extent of 4.83%.	Vendor cautioned by Health Committee.
920	Castor Oil ...	100% of Rape or Colza Oil.	This was an informal sample.
940	Butter	100% of Margarine.	„ „
944	Butter	100% of Margarine	„ „

#### MARGARINE ACT, 1887.

The sample of Butter and Margarine mixture obtained for analysis was found to contain 10% of Butter. The article was sold in a plain wrapper, and the Health Committee decided not to take action, and cautioned the vendor that he would be liable to penalties unless the article was sold in a wrapper marked "Margarine."



## MILK AND CREAM REGULATIONS, 1912.

The Milk and Cream Regulations were framed for the purpose of preventing the addition of preservatives to milk, and regulating the addition of the same to cream.

Cream containing preservative must be sold as "Preserved Cream."

During the year 45 samples of milk forwarded to the Public Analyst for analysis were examined for preservatives, but in no instance was preservative found to have been added.

During the same period four samples of cream were examined for preservatives, and in two instances preservatives were found.

In each case the vendor was asked for an explanation by the Council, and cautioned against the further use of preservatives in cream.

## ICE CREAM SHOPS.

There are about 15 shops and premises in the Borough where ice cream is made.

Frequent visits, particularly during the summer months, have been made to premises where ice cream is sold, or made.

In some instances the ice cream is made and stored in private dwelling-houses in poor localities prior to it being hawked about the streets.

This subject has been mentioned on a previous occasion with a view to obtaining Regulations governing the preparation and storage and sale of this commodity. So far we have not been successful in obtaining these Regulations, and it appears doubtful if such powers can be secured without the aid of a Special Act.

## FRIED FISH SHOPS.

Periodical inspection of this class of premises has been carried out with a view to mitigating as much as possible the nuisance from offensive odours inseparable from this class of business. In many instances the fault has been due to the burning of the fat in the pans.

Particular attention is also directed to the kind of paper used in wrapping or parcelling of fried fish and chipped potatoes, and to the quality of fat used in frying.

This class of business might with advantage be scheduled as an offensive trade and Bye-laws framed for its control.

### OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Three offensive trades are carried on within the Borough, which come within the terms of section 112 of the Public Health Acts, 1875, viz. :—

Tripe Boilers	...	...	2
Tallow Melter	...	...	1
Bone Boiler	...	...	1

In addition we have 50 fried fish dealers, 7 marine store dealers, 2 gut scrapers, 1 licensed knackers' yard, and 1 dealer who occasionally flays animals and boils the meat for dog food.

There are also a few butchers in the town who do a little gut scraping on their premises.

One bone boiler and one tripe boiler discontinued business, whilst one tripe boiler newly established his business without the consent of the Council. In this latter case the owner subsequently applied for consent, which was granted.

A report was presented to you in 1914, suggesting that the powers conferred by Section 51 of the Public Health Amendment Act, 1907, should be taken advantage of, and such businesses as those of fish frying, gut scraping, and marine store dealers be declared offensive trades.

These trades have been kept under supervision as far as practicable, but until Bye-laws have been made compelling such traders to carry out cleanliness as prescribed by the Model Bye-laws little can be done. These premises can only be dealt with at present under the nuisance sections 49 and 97 Public Health Act, 1875, and by the time that statutory notices can be served the nuisance may have been remedied and allowed to recur many times.

*The following report on "Offensive Trades" was presented to your Committee by Dr. Gamlen during May, 1914.*

The trades which come within the terms offensive are:—Blood-boilers, bone-boilers, fellmongers, soap-boilers, tallow-melters, tripe-boilers.

The above list has been further extended by Section 51 of the Public Health Act, 1907, so as to include any other trade, business, or manufacture, which the Local Authority declares—with the approval of the Local Government Board—to be an offensive trade. By this means, such businesses as have to do with the extraction of fat, gut scrapers, dealers in rags and bones, fish friers, and others, may be classified as "Offensive trades." I have made particular reference to gut-scrapers in my annual reports, and I consider that rag and bone merchants should not be allowed to have premises in close proximity to a dairy, and that some of the methods of fried fish vendors are open to serious objection. The Local Authority might exercise their powers and have these trades classed as "Offensive Trades."

The Local Government Board have published a suggested form of order to be made by a Local Authority in pursuance of Section 51 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, declaring certain trades to be offensive trades (copy of suggested order in Local Government Chronicle, May 6th, 1911). Further the Local Government Board have issued Bye-laws to regulate all these trades.

The trades which are particularly offensive in this Borough are:—1. Tripe-boilers. 2. Gut scrapers. 3. Rag and bone dealers 4. Knacker or slaughterer of horses. 5. Fish friers.

The nuisances which arise from fish frying are:—1. The effluvia given off from burnt cotton seed oil or tallow. 2. Using of open pans. 3. No proper hood or flues to conduct the fumes away. 4. No proper receptacles for the storage of offal; and the slow removal of the same.

The nuisances which sometimes arise from knackers' yards, have to do with the storage of the carcass before boiling, the boiling of the flesh, and the danger of allowing carcasses already diseased being used for cat and dog meat.



Bye-laws should secure :—

1. The free access to any officer of the Local Authority.
2. The restriction of trades to suitable premises
3. The maintenance in good order of the drainage, lighting, ventilation and cleansing of such premises.
4. Proper conveyance and storage of materials, to prevent the escape of noxious and offensive odours.
5. For rendering harmless any vapours given off.
6. Proper collection and storage of filth and refuse matter in properly covered receptacles, and the immediate removal of same.
7. Methods of cleansing skins (sausages).
8. Tools, implements, and receptacles, to be kept clean.
9. Penalties.

Signed, H. E. GAMLEN.

### PRIVY MIDDENS.

During the year, 238 privies and ashpits were converted into water closets and circular pans (removable receptacles for ashes and refuse.)

Six privies and ashpits were converted into w.c.'s and tipping ashbins (fixed receptacles).

In addition to these, 10 privy pans (removable receptacles) were abolished and w.c.'s substituted, and in 9 instances circular pans, and in the remaining case a tipping ashbin for ashes was provided.

The number of conversions which have taken place during the past twelve months, in the respective Wards, is shown :—

Wards	Privy Ashpits and Privy Pans converted into w.c.'s and dry ashpits			Additional w.c.'s provided
North	...	3	...	—
West	...	12	...	—
Park	...	44	...	—
South West	...	48	...	4
South East	...	42	...	—
Central	...	83	...	—
North East	...	13	...	—
Seaton	...	9	...	—
		<hr/>		
	Total	254		

The following table shows the number of privy middens converted into water closets etc., each year from 1903 to the end of 1914.

Year.	Number of Conversions.		
1903	...	...	125
1904	...	...	36
1905	...	...	69
1906	...	...	87
1907	...	...	81
1908	...	...	33
1909	...	...	36
1910	...	...	33
1911	...	...	125
1912	...	...	223
1913	...	...	724
1914	...	...	254

The following table shews approximately the number of closets of each type in the Borough at the end of 1914.

Number of privies, fixed receptacles	...	2,268
„ movable receptacles (privy pans)		849
„ water closets	... ..	10,904
„ Hand flush closets	... ..	3
„ Waste water closets	... ..	—

#### DRAIN TESTING.

A total of 446 drains were tested with the smoke machine.

Of this number 254 tests were in connection with the conversion of privy middens and privy pans into water closets.

The remaining tests were made on complaint or request by the occupiers of premises, or in connection with your Inspectors investigations when visiting premises where there were cases of Infectious Disease.

Practically every drain on being tested was found to be more or less defective.

## HOUSING ACTS.

The Housing and Town Planning Act, 1909, Section 17, provides that every Local Authority shall cause to be made from time to time inspection of their district with a view to ascertaining whether any dwelling-house therein is in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for habitation.

The Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations 1910 provides that records must be kept of every house in detail, the action taken by the Local Authority, and the result of such action.

The records required by these Regulations are kept on the Card Index System in West Hartlepool, and there is no doubt that in future these cards will form a valuable housing record.

Twenty-one cases of overcrowding were detected and dealt with.

448 dwelling-houses were inspected under and for the purpose of Section 17 of the Housing and Town Planning Act, 1909.

As a result of such inspections the following steps were taken :—

1.	Number of representations made to Local Authority with a view to the making of closing orders.	...	...	28
2.	Number of Closing Orders made	...	...	27
3.	Number of Houses against which Closing Orders were made during 1913 and determined during 1914	...	...	1
4.	Number of houses against which Closing Orders were made and determined during year 1914	...	...	4
5.	Number of houses the defects in which were remedied without the making of a Closing Order	...	...	24
6.	Houses demolished voluntarily by the owners after making of Closing Orders	...	...	0
7.	Demolition Orders made during 1914	...	...	42
8.	Houses demolished after service of Demolition Orders			34
9.	Notices served under Section 15	...	...	0



Closing Orders made against three houses were not served owing to the owner being an imbecile. This matter is being followed up.

The large number of Demolition Orders made is accounted for by the fact that many of the houses against which Closing Orders were made in 1912 and 1913 were allowed to remain over until the present year.

REPRESENTATIONS MADE TO LOCAL AUTHORITIES UNDER  
SECTION 17 OF THE HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING ACT, 1909.

Situation of House.	Chief Defects.	Action taken and results.
23, Stainton street	Empty and dilapidated	Closing Order made. Repairs executed and Closing Order determined.
25, Stainton street	„ „	„ „
34, Wood street ...	„ „	Closing Order made and notice <i>re</i> question of demolition served.
12, Ann street ...	Premises in a ruinous condition and empty.	Closing Order made.
14, Ann street ...	„ „	„ „
16, Ann street ...	„ „	„ „
4, West street ...	Premises in a delapidated condition generally.	„ „
Shed rear of St. James' Place	Wood Shed totally unsuitable for habitation	„ „
12, Sydney street ...	Empty and delapidated.	Closing Order and demolition.
14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24 26, Knowles street	Empty and in a delapidated and dangerous condition.	Closing Order made.

Situation of House.	Chief Defects.	Action taken and results.
22, John street ...	Roof, window frames, spouts and outhouses delapidated.	Closing Order made. Repairs executed and Closing Order determined.
5, 11, 13, Sydney street ...	Empty and delapidated.	Closing Orders made. Nos. 11 and 13 demolished, and No. 5 boarded up.
48, St. John street	„ „	Repairs executed without the necessity of serving Closing Order.
24, John street ...	Roof, window frames, spouts and outhouses delapidated.	Closing Order served. Repairs executed closing order determined.
11, 13, 15, Stainton Street ...	Empty and ruinous.	Closing Orders made but not served. Owner an imbecile. Houses receiving attention.
6, Newburn street	Empty and general delapidations.	Closing Order made.
12, Newburn street	Empty and in a ruinous and dangerous condition.	„ „
21, Ann street ...	Empty and in a ruinous condition.	„ „

## FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901.

The following is a record of the work done in this section during the past year.

The number of Workshops on the Register at the end of the year was 357, made up as follows :—

Workshops	...	...	329
Domestic Workshops	...	...	18
Workplaces	...	...	10

Seven Notices have been received from H.M. Inspector of Factories, informing us of defects in Factories and Workshops remediable under the Public Health Acts, and action has been taken as shown below :—

Premises	Defects	Results of Action taken
Tailors' Workshop	No separate sanitary accommodation for persons of each sex employed	Arrangements made for use of conveniences at adjoining premises
Blacksmith's Workshop	Roof defective condition	Roof repaired
Boot Repairer's Workshop	Premises not clean	Cleansed and Lime-washed
Tailor's Workshop	Insanitary privy midden	Converted to water closet
Tailor's Workshop	Workrooms dirty	Walls and ceilings cleansed
Venetian Blind Maker	Sanitary conveniences defective and dirty	Conveniences repaired and cleaned
Tailor's Workshop	Gas stove without proper outlet pipe	Outlet pipe provided

Other 24 Notices were served respecting defects found to exist in workshops by your Inspector, all of which have been complied with.



## BAKEHOUSES.

There are 51 bakehouses on the Register, four of which are underground. In only one instance was it necessary to require the cleaning of a bakehouse.

## WORKSHOPS' REGISTER, DECEMBER 31st, 1914.

Nature of Trade			Number
Dress and Mantle-making	...	...	50
Milliners	...	...	16
Tailors...	...	...	25
Boot Makers and Repairers	...	...	34
Bakehouses (Retail)	...	...	50
Do. (Wholesale)	...	...	1
Joiners and Cabinet Makers	...	...	32
Plumbers	...	...	23
Blacksmiths	...	...	13
Upholsterers & French Polishers	...	...	7
Cartwrights	...	...	9
Laundries	...	...	4
Photographers	...	...	4
Cycle Repairers	...	...	8
Fat Renderers	...	...	5
Tripe Boilers	...	...	3
Egg Pickling	...	...	2
Sailmakers	...	...	4
Picture Framers	...	...	5
Tinsmiths	...	...	3
Fish Curers	...	...	3
Drysalterns	...	...	3
Harness Makers	...	...	3
Miscellaneous	...	...	50

The following tables are included at the request of the Secretary of State:—

## Factories, Workshops, Laundries, Workplaces & Homework.

### 1. Inspection.

Premises.	No. of		Notices.	
	Inspections.			
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	... 22	...	7	
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	... 117	...	21	
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises included in part three of this report)	... 4	...	3	

### 2. Defects found.

Particulars.	Found.	Number of defects remedied.	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :</i>			
Want of Cleanliness ...	10	...	10
Want of Ventilation ...	3	...	3
Overcrowding ...	—	...	—
Other Nuisances ...	14	...	14
Sanitary Accommodation			
Insufficient ...	1	...	1
Unsuitable and Defective	9	...	9
Not separate for sexes ...	1	...	1

## OFFENCES UNDER THE FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACTS.

Illegal occupation of Underground Bakehouses (s. 101) ...	0	...	0
Breach of special sanitary require- ments for Bakehouses (ss. 97 to 100) ...	1	...	1
Other offences (excluding offences relating to outwork which are included in part IV of this report) ...	0	...	0
	<hr/> 39		<hr/> 39

**3.—Other Matters.**

Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :—

	Number
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Acts (s. 153) ... ..	3
Action taken in matters referred to H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 5)—	
Notified by H.M. Inspector ... ..	7
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector ...	7
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101)—	
Certificates granted during the year ...	0
In use at the end of the year ... ..	4

**4.—Homework.**

Number of lists of outworkers received twice in the year (Contained names and addresses of 3 contractors and 3 workmen).	3
Number of lists of Outworkers received once in the year (Contained names and addresses of 4 contractors and 28 workmen).	7
Number of Inspections of Outworkers' premises ...	15
Number found unwholesome and occupiers ordered to cleanse ... ..	2
Work stopped because of the prevalence of infectious disease ... ..	0

All the outworkers are engaged in the making of wearing apparel.

**MEANS OF ESCAPE IN CASE OF FIRE.**

During the year we have succeeded in obtaining Bye-Laws dealing with the provision of means of escape in case of fire in factories or workshops of more than one storey high, and in which less than forty persons are employed.



